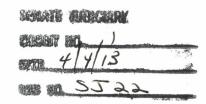
## THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT STATE OF MONTANA



Gregory R. Todd

DISTRICT JUDGE—DEPARTMENT 4 MARRIS HARRIS, JUDICIAL ASSISTANT REBECCA OROZCO, COURT REPORTER



PO Box 35026 Billings, Montana 59107 Phone: 406.256.2901 Fax: 406.256.2970

April 3, 2013

Montana Senate Judiciary Committee

Re: Senate Joint Resolution No. 22

Dear Committee Members:

I have read and reviewed a copy of Senate Joint Resolution No. 22 regarding an interim study to evaluate court procedures in family law cases. During my career as a lawyer I handled hundreds of domestic relations cases and I have obviously dealt with scores and scores of domestic relations cases in my 12 ½ years as a judge. With caseloads for all types of cases rising and in particular domestic relations cases where at least one party is unrepresented, many problems are arising. These issues affect the court, lawyers in the cases, the parties that are representing themselves and the overall speed in which decisions are made and the quality of those decisions.

I support the joint resolution and encourage an interim study to explore all of the issues raised by the family law cases. Thank you for your willingness to help.

Sincerely yours,

HON. GREGORY R. TODD

District Court Judge

GRT/mlh